

## PREFACE

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The invitation of the CERC3 (Chairmen of the European Research Councils' Chemistry Committees - <http://www.cerc3.net>) to organize a "Young Chemists' Workshop" was a timely opportunity for a meeting devoted to the interplay between biophysics and the fast growing field of molecular medicine. In fact, molecular medicine is being shaped to a great extent by physical (bio)chemistry approaches. And the near future looks very promising and exciting from this point of view.

Sesimbra (Portugal) hosted the "Biophysical chemistry meets molecular medicine" workshop, where more than 30 young group leaders from Europe, USA, Russia, and Brazil gathered to present and discuss the work ongoing in their labs. I believe the communication links

and exchange of ideas will endure, this being the most important accomplishment of the meeting. Both the background training diversity of those involved and the fast development of their state-of-the-art approaches make communication and exchange of ideas vital. *European Biophysics Journal* has given us important support to enable the outcome of the meeting last for a much longer period. This thematic issue has contributions from some of the best speakers, whose work was peer-reviewed according to the high standards of the editorial board. I thank the editorial team and the contributors for their commitment.

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